(c) Yes. Sir.

(d) The Government plan to popularise the use of corrugated fibre board (CFB) cartons, kraft liner paper/fluting media and polypropylene copolymer for packing of horticulture produce.

Sarkaria Commission

1063. SHRI K. GOPALAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 528 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27th February, 1986 and state:

(a) whether the Sarkaria Commission has submitted its report;

(b) if not, by when it is expected to submit its report;

(c) as on date, what had been its expenditure; and

(d) whether all States have submitted their reports to the Commission; if not, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Commission is expected to submit its report by December 31, 1986.

(c) The expenditure incurred on the Commission upto October 31, 1986, amounts to Rs. 104.25 lakhs.

(d) The Governments of Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur and Punjab have not furnished their views to the Commission so far.

Protection of snow leopard

1064. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a national programme for conservation of rare species of show leopard, similar to that of the Tiger project, is being launched shortly in the country and that this programme is to cover the Himalayan belt from Ladakh to Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the project Tiger have helped in doubling the number of tigers from 1827 to 4005 in the country; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up mountain national parks with snow leopards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) The snow leopard is one of the endangered species where conservation is a part of the national programme of conservation.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is for the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations concerned to set up national parks under the wildlife (Protection) Act 1972, inclusive of those areas with snow leopards.

Agitation by junior engineers in the Telecommunications Department

1065. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether junior engineers of the Telecommunications Department had resorted to work-to-rule during October, 1986;

(b) if so, what were their demands;

(c) whether this agitation has affected telephone and telex services in various parts of the country;

(d) if so, what is the extent of loss of revenue to Governemnt; and

(e) what steps have been taken to meet the demands of junior engineers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. However, the agitation was called off on 8.11.1986.

(b) (1) Revision of pay scale of Junior Engineer from scale of 1400—2300 to Rs. 1640—2900 and Selection Grade scale to Rs. 2000—3200.

(2) Change in the promotion rules to Assistant Engineers to allow for promotion on the basis of seniority-cum-fitness rather than by the selection;

(3) Question of pay fixation under FR 22(C) for JEs promoted from the cadre of Selection Grade Phone Inspectors, Transmission Assistants etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The extent of loss of direct revenue is approximate Rs. 50 lakhs per day and indirect loss cannot be readily estimated.

(e) The Government have appointed a High Power Committee to examine the demand of revision of pay scales of JEs. The question of amendment to Recruitment Rules 1981 is being expedited and the issue of restoration of FR 22(C) for fixation of pay of Junior Engineers promoted through Selection Grade Phone Inspectors, etc. and the deduction of pay because of refixation of pay under FR 22(a) is being taken up at a very high level for early and favourable settlement.

Barbed wire fencing on Indo-Bangladesh border

1066. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in putting barbed wire fencing on Indo-Bangladesh border to solve the border problem; and

(b) the reasons for the slow progress, if any, in the work; and by when the entire work is likely to be finished?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) It has been decided first to take up the construction of border roads etc., along the Indo-Bangladesh border. Survey work for border roads in some areas is already in progress. The question of border fence will be taken up after construction of roads. Efforts will be made to complete the work as early as possible.

Telecasting of train timings on Doordarshan

1067. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the telecasting of train timings on Channel II of Doordarshan has been stopped;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether a new programme is proposed to be started by Doordarshan wherein details of train timings could be shown?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It was felt that splashing captions of few major trains only was not indicating full position.

(c) No, Sir, because the matter/format is to be cleared by the Railways.

Accidents of defence aircrafts due to bird hits

1068. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several